

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
U.S. Appl. No. 09/331,674

The patent US 4 758 703 describes a device and a process for printing a code on a product by a "laser and mask" technique.

The patent US 5 568 555 describes a novel system for coding information by translating it in the form of matrices of dots of different colours and of shades that are themselves different.

The patent application EP-A-0 681 262 describes a process for marking products by applying to them several labels of small sizes but visible to the naked eye and each bearing the same serial number and hence easily reproducible by a non-authorised person.--

Page 6, lines 37-38, change "among others, for example," to --such as--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 6, line 1, delete "or claim 5".

7. (Amended) Process according to [any one of the preceding claims] claims 1, 2, 3 or 4, characterised in that the coded part of the image is combined with one or more non-coded parts visible to the naked eye that are different or identical on each image.

Claim 9, line 2, change "claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8" to --claim 1 or 2--.

Please cancel claim 11.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended and claim 11 has been cancelled in order to make the Article 34 amendments attached to the IPER (the PTO communication of June 23, 2000. indicated that these amendments were not entered, apparently because the translations of the